

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 were pending in the application. Claims 2-3, 10-11, 18-19 and 23-24 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16-17, 20-22, and 25-27 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, 20-22, and 25-27 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment.

Claims 20 and 22-27 were objected to due to an informality. Applicant has amendment the claims are requested by the examiner.

In the present Office Action, claims 1, 9, 17 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over 2005/0007964 (hereinafter “Falco”). Claims 2, 10, 18 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Falco in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,650,640. Finally, claims 3-8, 11-16, 19-21 and 24-27 are deemed to correspond to allowable subject matter. In order to facilitate speedy allowance of the present application, Applicant has amended each of the independent claims to recite subject matter deemed allowable in the present Office Action.

In view of the above, Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5760-12500/RDR.

Respectfully submitted,

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